

Objects: Indirect Objects

An **object of a verb** is a noun, pronoun, or word group that completes the meaning of a **transitive verb**—a verb that expresses an action directed toward a person, a place, a thing, or an idea.

- 2k.** An **indirect object** is a noun, pronoun, or word group that often appears in sentences containing direct objects. An indirect object tells *to whom* or *to what* (or *for whom* or *for what*) the action of a transitive verb is done.

EXAMPLES Hand **her** the clean sheets, please. [Hand the sheets to whom? *Her*.]
Play **Kim** and **me** a tune. [Play a tune for whom? *Kim* and *me*.]

EXERCISE A Decide whether the underlined words in the following sentences are direct objects or indirect objects. If the word is a direct object, write *DO* above the word. If it is an indirect object, write *IO*.

Example 1. Jill handed ^{*IO*} Jack ^{*DO*} the bucket.

- Are you reading the book I gave you?
- I mailed my brother the birthday gift.
- Juanita sent her teacher an Easter card.
- Would you like a drink with your sandwich?
- Please send me a copy of the letter.
- The flight attendant offered the passengers drinks and snacks.
- Are you going to buy plates and napkins for the picnic?
- The dog chased its tail for several minutes.
- Please hand me the pitcher of orange juice, Franco.
- Have you given Janice your answer yet?

EXERCISE B Underline the indirect objects in the following sentences.

Example 1. Fred sent the college his application.

- Why don't you tell us a story?
- Aunt Maria brought me a souvenir from Thailand.
- The driver told the officer his version of the accident.
- Please offer cousin Tina my condolences.
- Lester loaned Miranda a sweater.